AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Canceled)

2.   (Currently amended)   ~~The method of claim 1 wherein the voltage is varied~~ A method of controlling the burning in of at least one I/C chip in a burn in tool, wherein said tool has a device for mounting each chip to be burned in, a power source to supply electrical current to burn in each chip, and a monitor to continuously monitor the temperature value of each chip, comprising the steps of:

continuously monitoring at least one electrical value input to each chip selected from the group of current, voltage and power, and varying the voltage to maintain the current value below a given value.

3.   (Currently amended)   ~~The method of claim 1 wherein the voltage is varied~~ A method of controlling the burning in of at least one I/C chip in a burn in tool, wherein said tool has a device for mounting each chip to be burned in, a power source to supply electrical current to burn in each chip, and a monitor to continuously monitor the temperature value of each chip, comprising the steps of:

continuously monitoring at least one electrical value input to each chip selected from the group of current, voltage and power, and varying the voltage to maintain the power value below a given value.

4 - 7   (Canceled)

8.   (Currently amended)   ~~The tool of claim 7 wherein the voltage is varied~~ A

burn in tool for burning in at least one I/C chip comprising:

       a structure for mounting each chip to be burned in;

       a power source to supply electrical current to burn in each chip;

       a structure for continuously monitoring at least one electrical value input to each chip

selected from the group of current, voltage and power, and

       a structure to vary the voltage to maintain the current value below a given value.

9.   (Currently amended)   ~~The tool of claim 5 wherein the voltage is varied~~ A

burn in tool for burning in at least one I/C chip comprising:

       a structure for mounting each chip to be burned in;

       a power source to supply electrical current to burn in each chip;

       a structure for continuously monitoring at least one electrical value input to each chip

selected from the group of current, voltage and power, and

       a structure to vary the voltage to maintain the power value below a given value.

10 – 12   (Canceled)